

***Amendments***

***In the Drawings:***

Please substitute the attached Figure 1 for the pending Figure 1. The attached Figure 1 is a duplicate of the drawing that is being submitted herewith as part of the Formal Drawings for Figures 1-4. The Formal Drawings are being submitted herewith under a separate pleading for approval.

***Remarks***

Applicants respectfully request approval of the proposed drawing changes provided herewith and illustrated in more detail in red ink on the attached Markup Copy of Figure 1. The changes to the drawing are made to rectify three obvious errors as illustrated in red ink. The first two errors pertain to the directional arrows shown therein. Referring to the pending Figure 1, Applicants assert that (1) the arrow connecting element "Upper Layer 126" to element "Backbone Network", and (2) the arrow connecting element "Backbone Network" to element "Output Queues 128" both are positioned incorrectly to depict the functional relationship among the elements. In the pending Figure 1, these arrows are reversed in the incorrect direction. Applicants further assert that no other direction for these arrows could have been intended. Therefore in the attached Figure 1, Applicants have illustrated the above-mentioned arrows in the correct

direction. The Applicants' assertions are clearly supported by the specification in paragraph 21 which describes the interrelationship of the aforementioned elements.

In addition, Applicants assert that a box outlining the element "Downstream Scheduler / MPEG Transport" is missing erroneously although the text "Downstream Scheduler / MPEG Transport" is present to label the missing box. Applicants note that several correctly boxed elements (such as, "128," "132," "108," and "136") have arrows pointing towards the element "Downstream Scheduler / MPEG Transport" to indicate the flow of signals thereto, and the element "Downstream Scheduler / MPEG Transport" also has an arrow pointing towards the element "Downstream Channel" to indicate the flow of signals thereto. Referring to the attached Figure 1, Applicants have illustrated a box to outline the element "Downstream Scheduler / MPEG Transport." The Applicants' assertions are clearly supported by paragraphs 30, 31, 32, 34, and 35 within the specification.

These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider and examine the present invention in light of the relevant art.

### ***Conclusion***

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Patterson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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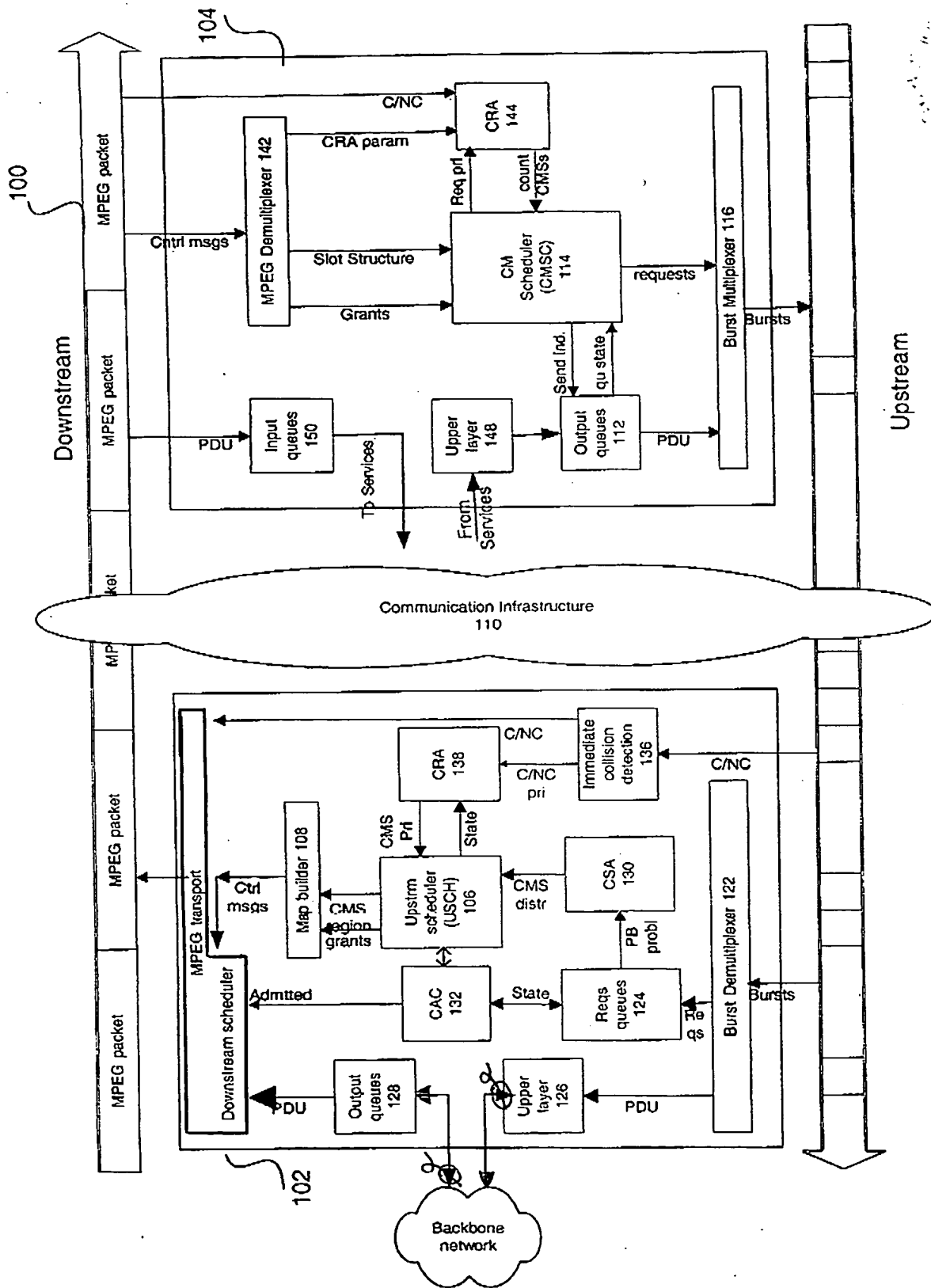


Fig. 1